NEW YORK, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2014

Today, mostly sunny, another cold day, high 32. **Tonight,** cloudy skies, a bit of snow late, low 26. **Tomorrow,** morning snow, 1-3 inches total,

In Egypt, a Chasm Grows Between Young and Old

Frustration Is Boiling Over at a Generation Perceived as Mired in a Stagnant Past

By DAVID D. KIRKPATRICK and MAYY EL SHEIKH

CAIRO — Shady el-Ghazaly Harb says he has given up trying to help the military-backed government address its worries about losing the support of young Egyptians.

After attending three meetings about the issue at the presidential palace in recent weeks, Mr. Ghazaly Harb, a 35-year-old political organizer, rejected the latest invitation because, he said, the authorities have not heeded advice to stop arresting so many young people, or at least to alleviate the grim conditions in the jails where they are held. Instead, the police arrested scores more, including friends of his who were involved in organizing the Arab Spring uprising here.

"A lot of youth groups are saying, 'We cannot come and sit with you like this while our colleagues are behind bars — we cannot find this ethical," said Mr. Ghazaly Harb, who played a prominent role in the 2011 uprising against the rule of President Hosni Mubarak and then campaigned for the removal of Mr. Mubarak's Islamist successor, Mohamed Morsi of the Muslim Brotherhood.

A growing number of young Egyptians say the government's heavy-handed crackdown on any opposition is widening a generation gap, which poses a longerterm threat to stability.

Three out of four Egyptians are under 40, and more than two out of three are under 35. With the government's most important leader, Field Marshal Abdul-Fattah el-Sisi, retracing the 60-yearold footsteps of former President Gamal Abdel Nasser — even flying to Moscow last week to try to restart arms deals that were last seen at the height of the Cold War - young bloggers and activists are complaining that they feel caught in a time warp.

They are lashing out at their parents' whole generation, which presided over three decades of economic, cultural and political stagnation and now seems to be repudiating the 2011 uprising for interrupting that stasis.

"Egypt is facing the tragedy of an entire generation incapable and unqualified to deal with their plight," Mahmoud Salem, a 32year-old blogger known as Sandmonkey, wrote last month in a widely circulated post.

Even Egyptian popular culture is stuck in a decades-old rut, he argued: People are still laughing at the clownish comedian Adel Imam, now 73; still listening to the pop heartthrob Amr Diab, now 53; and still admiring re-

Continued on Page A3

Sinai Blast Kills Tourists

Three died in what appears to be the first attack on tourists by militants in three years. Page A3.

Punching Above Its Weight, **Upstart Netflix Pokes at HBO**

By DAVID CARR and RAVI SOMAIYA

On the night of the Golden Globes ceremony last month, Netflix and HBO held dueling parties at the Beverly Hilton hotel. Bono and Julia Roberts mingled underneath a bejeweled tent as Netflix, the upstart streaming service, joined forces for the party with the Weinstein Company and celebrated a small piece of history — its first Globe, for "House of Cards," its splashy entrant into original programming. At HBO's party, Matt Damon and Lady Gaga sipped drinks by the pool as the cable network toasted its two awards, pushing its total

If there is a rivalry between the two companies, it is by many measures a mismatch - certainly in terms of creative achievement (HBO has also won 463 Emmys, to three for Netflix). But that hasn't stopped Wall Street and the entertainment media from salivating at the story line: Netflix, the brash Silicon Valley interloper, driven by metrics and checkbook that makes seasoned Hollywood players blush like teenagers, taking on HBO, the East Coast establishment player, in the rarefied and profitable world of quality television.

The competition is energizing the medium. Cable networks like HBO and Showtime, and streaming services like Netflix and Amazon Prime, are spending lavishly on programming and embracing new technologies, giving producers incentives to take creative and financial risks and generating an upward spiral in quality.

The result, said Mike Vorhaus of Magid Advisors, a research and consulting firm, is "an arms race in programming." Both Netflix and HBO are "seeing the best pitches from the best people," said Rick Rosen, head of the television division at William Morris Endeavor.

As a business, Netflix is gaining momentum and blowing through the stock market's ex-

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technology, not to mention a

pectations. It has a market value



SERGEY DOLZHENKO/EUROPEAN PRESSPHOTO AGENC

Ukrainian Protesters Strike a Deal

Antigovernment activists ended occupation of City Hall in Kiev in exchange for amnesty for those involved in protests. Page A6.

On Health Act, Democrats Run In Fix-It Mode

By ASHLEY PARKER

WASHINGTON — The ad supporting Representative Ann Kirkpatrick, Democrat of Arizona, opens with a montage of Americana Main Streets, followed by the green fields and dirt roads of the West — the "small towns and wide-open spaces," the narrator explains, where Ms. Kirkpatrick "listens and learns."

His voice remains tranquil even as he turns to a more cutting message about President Obama's signature health care law: "It's why she blew the whistle on the disastrous health care website, calling it 'stunning ineptitude' and worked to fix it," he says, before adding, "Ann Kirkpatrick: Seeing what's wrong, doing what's right."

As Democrats approach the 2014 midterm elections, they are grappling with an awkward reality: Their president's health care law - passed almost entirely by Democrats — remains a political liability in many states, threatening their ability to hold on to seats in the Senate and the House.

As a result, party leaders have decided on an aggressive new strategy to address the widespread unease with the health care law, urging Democratic candidates to talk openly about the law's problems while also offering their own prescriptions to fix them.

The shift represents an abrupt Continued on Page A10

Common Curriculum Now Has Critics on the Left

By AL BAKER

The Common Core has been applauded by education leaders and promoted by the Obama administration as a way to replace a hodgepodge of state standards with one set of rigorous learning goals. Though 45 states and the District of Columbia have signed on to them since 2010, resistance came quickly, mostly from rightleaning states, where some leaders and political action groups have protested what they see as a federal takeover of local class-

But the newest chorus of complaints is coming from one of the earliest champions of the standards: New York. And that is causing supporters of the Common Core to shudder. Carol Burris, an acclaimed

high school principal on Long Island, calls the Common Core a 'disaster." "We see kids," she said, "they

don't want to go to school any-

Leaders of both parties in the New York Legislature want to rethink how the state uses the Common Core.

The statewide teachers' union withdrew its support for the standards last month until "ma-

most liberal states, and one of the jor course corrections" took place.

> "There are days I think, 'Oh my God, we have to slow this thing down, there are so many problems," said Catherine T. Nolan, a Queens Democrat who is chairwoman of the State Assembly Education Committee.

> The objections in New York have become so loud, and have come from such a wide political spectrum, that even the governor, Andrew M. Cuomo, a Democrat, has become a critic. Governor Cuomo has called the state's execution of the standards "flawed" and appointed a panel

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Kimberly Celifarco with one of her students, Gerson Perez, 5, at Public School 253 in Brooklyn.

Saving an Endangered British Species: The Pub A Mad Dash for Salt Rescues Olympic Slopes

By DANNY HAKIM

LONDON — One by one, the pubs are disappearing in Hampstead, a jewel-box village of cobbled lanes and Georgian homes that has become one of this city's most fashionable neighborhoods. The Nags Head has become a realty office. The King of Bohemia is now a clothing shop. The Hare & Hounds has been replaced with an apartment building.

Changing economics and shifting tastes have claimed roughly one out of every five pubs during the last two decades in Britain, and things are growing worse.

Since the 2008 financial crisis, 7,000 have shut, leaving some small communities confronting unthinkable: life without a "lo-

cal," as pubs are known. And that has spurred the government into action. New legislation is letting people petition to have a pub designated an "asset of community value," a status that provides a degree of protection from demolition and helps community groups buy pubs themselves, rather than seeing them get snatched up by real estate developers eager to convert them for other uses or tear them down. Since the Ivy House, a beloved local in south London, became the first to receive the designation last year, roughly 300 others have followed suit.

"The pub, we like to think, is relatively internationally unique, it's a very traditional thing," said Brandon Lewis, the Conservative member of Parliament who is the Community Pubs Minister, an office that underscores the special place pubs occupy in British life. "In many communities they are really important, not just because it's where people come together, but it will be the focal point for fund-raising for the community, for the local football club, for the dance class, for the moms' coffee

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By SAM DOLNICK

KRASNAYA POLYANA, Russia — A senior adviser to the Sochi Olympics convened an emergency meeting late last week with top winter sports officials at the Park Inn hotel in the Alpine village here.

A situation had grown dire. It was not security, attendance or doping that was the problem. It was salt.

Four months earlier, Hans Pieren, one of the world's leading experts on salt and snow, had told Sochi officials that the Alpine skiing events required more than 19 tons of salt, a crucial ingredient for melting soft snow so it can refreeze into a hard surface.

But the organizers did not listen, to their great regret. Now, with 10 days of competition remaining, many of the Games' signature events were in jeopardy of being compromised, and even canceled.

Tim Gayda, a Canadian consultant who is a senior adviser to the Sochi organizers, called the meeting Thursday night, according to some people who were there. He told the group that the strongest kind of salt, the largegrain variety, was simply not Continued on Page D4



Salt was thrown before a Nordic relay race Sunday at the Alpine resort near Sochi.

NATIONAL A9-11

Disagreement Over Drought

While global warming has been linked to drought in some regions, researchers say that may not be the reason for the dry spell in parts of California, like Ran-PAGE A11 cho Murieta, below.



NATIONAL

Florida Law Loomed in Trial

Florida's contentious self-defense law may be the reason a jury failed to reach a verdict in the killing of a teenager in a dispute over loud music.

NEW YORK A12-16

Silver Lining in the Snow Meteorologists see this season's relentless cycle of snow and rain as a rich

trove of data for future storms. PAGE A12

The George Polk Awards

Journalists who broke news of government surveillance led the list of honorees for investigative work.

INTERNATIONAL A3-8

Plan to Protect European Data

Angela Merkel, the German chancellor, has supported efforts to create European data networks to ensure communications are secure from spying. PAGE A6

BUSINESS DAY B1-6

Tracking the Web's Criminals

A security blogger follows cybercriminals, who make billions off spam, malware, fraud and theft.

'Tonight' Returns to Birthplace

The "Tonight" show, now with Jimmy Fallon, returns to the New York studio that it left nearly 42 years ago. PAGE B1 ARTS C1-8

A Chameleon's Life

A discovered memoir by Anita Reynolds details a Zelig-like existence starring in early black films in Hollywood, modeling in Paris, below, and sidestepping racial misperceptions of her.



SPORTSMONDAY D1-10

Comeback Bid Ends Abruptly

Mark Mulder, 36, had not pitched in the major leagues in six years because of shoulder problems. But he was back in spring training this month with the Los Angeles Angels, with a new delivery and a low-90s fastball. Now a ruptured Achilles' tendon has cut short his hope of a return.

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Paul Krugman

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